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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/053,530      | 01/17/2002  | Jeffrey A. Ledbetter | 390069.401          | 8993             |

7590 05/25/2005

Buchanan Ingersoll Professional Corporation  
One Oxford Center  
301 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1410

EXAMINER

HELMS, LARRY RONALD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1642

DATE MAILED: 05/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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|                                 |             |   |                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|
| APPLICATION NO./<br>CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR /<br>PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

10) 053530

EXAMINER

LARRY HELMS

ART UNIT

PAPER

20050523

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Claims 44-45, 49 need to be canceled as they depend on canceled claims. SEE ATTACHED INTERVIEW SUMMARY.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

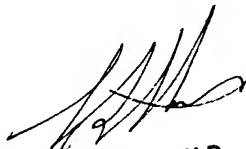
A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Larry R. Helms, Ph.D, whose telephone number is (571) 272-0832. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm, with alternate Fridays off. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Siew, can be reached at (571) 272-0787.

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The Fax Center telephone number is 571-273-8300.

Larry R. Helms

571-272-0832

  
LARRY R. HELMS, PH.D  
PRIMARY EXAMINER